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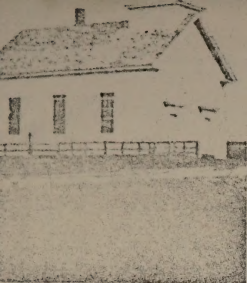
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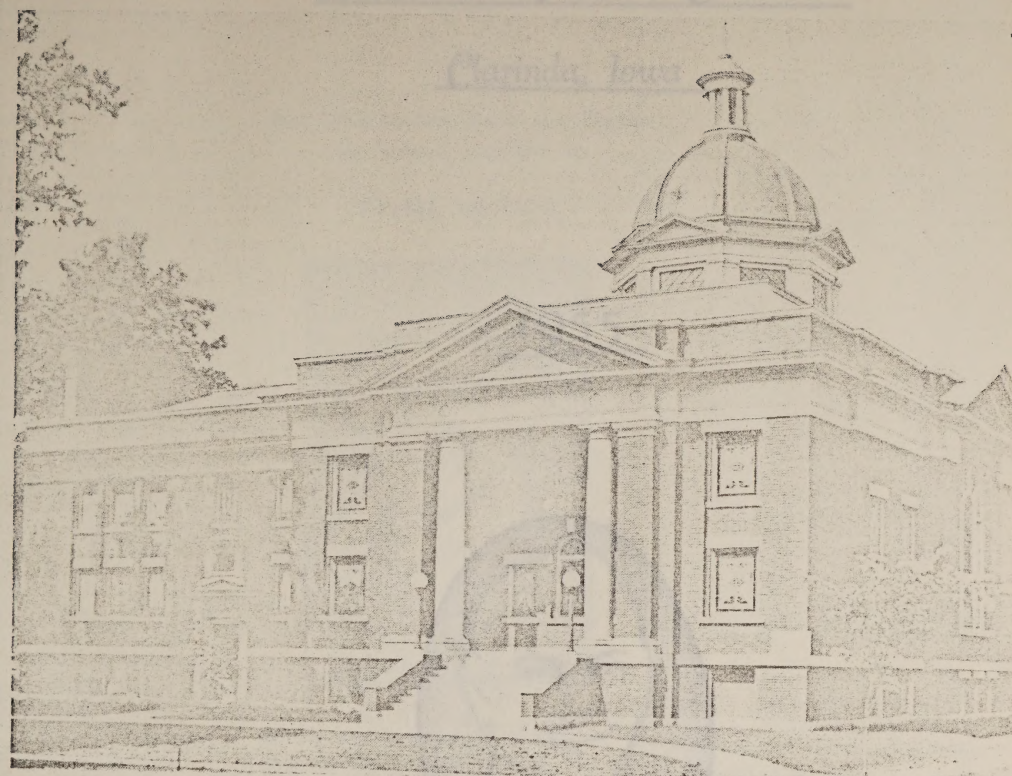
1855-1881

CENTENNIAL OBSERVANCE

June 18-19, 1955

First Presbyterian Church

Clarinda, Iowa

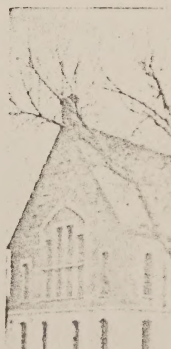


1910-1955

First Presbyterian Church

Clarinda, Iowa

1881-19



Centennial Observance

of the

First Presbyterian Church

Clarinda, Iowa

This little booklet about our Church
is lovingly dedicated to

ETHEL USTICK

1955

THE PUBLIC LIBRARY
OF
FORT LANE & ALLEN CO. IOWA



Rev. D. C. Davis

Pastor

This little booklet about our Church
we lovingly dedicate to

ETHEL USTICK



Gently she served and loyally,
glad for the chance to bring
the sunshine and truth of God's Word
to young hearts seeking His Way.

ONE HUNDRED YEARS OF SERVICE TO GOD

*Centennial Observance**First Presbyterian Church, Clarinda, Iowa*

THE FOUNDING

The Presbyterian Church of Clarinda was organized in August, 1855, by Launcelot Graham Bell, who preached from Burlington across the state to Sidney. He found two families near the town, Mr. B. B. Huttons, two miles southwest of Clarinda and Mr. John McLean's, eight miles northeast of Hawleyville.

The organization took place in the log school house located on the southwest corner of the block where the present high school stands. There were five charter members: Mr. and Mrs. B. B. Hutton and their daughter, and Mr. and Mrs. McLean. The two men were elected ruling elders.

During the first five years the records show only three meetings of the Session: August 1855, August 1856 and August 1857. At each of these meetings the only business transacted was the receiving of new members into the church. In these years the membership grew from five to twenty-three.

For awhile the services were held in the school house. Later they were moved to the court house.

Rev. D. A. Murdock, a Cumberland Presbyterian minister living at Hawleyville, often drove over in an ox cart with Elder McLean and held services. When he received an appointment as missionary to the Otoe Indians, he moved to Nebraska. For three years the church did not have regular preaching. Rev. Bell and ministers from the nearby states of Nebraska and Missouri supplied the pulpit from time to time.

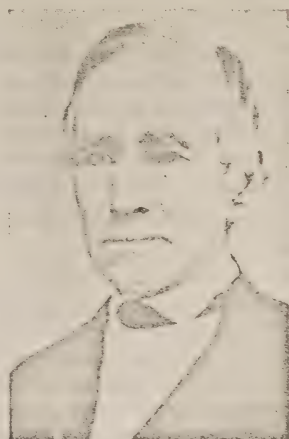
In 1859 the Rev. W. M. Stryker was assigned to Page and Taylor counties, and the following year became the first regular pastor of the Clarinda Church. And a new Presbyterian Church was founded.

* * *

In the historical record of "Presbyterianism in the Presbytery of Corning" we find the following written of Clarinda:

"This church has had an eventful history. Sturdy pioneers planted it: men and women of sterling fiber of character, of strong faith, who indured the many privations incident to pioneer life, that they might have a home, and who gave freely of their little that they might have a church.

The ministers who served counted it a joy ride over treeless prairies, to ford unbridged streams, to lie out under heaven's canopy at night as they went from one distant settlement to another simply that they might preach the gospel. By them Presbyterian



Christianity gained a strong foothold in the new land and churches were planted to be fostered by others into strength.

We who are in the enjoyment of all that surrounds us today can scarcely understand how plain and simple and, in a sense, poor and heroic, were the lives of those who labored that we might enter into their labors."

The above was written in 1898. In 1955 one whose membership dates back many years, wrote of those pioneers:

"I have many happy memories of the early ministers, all intimate family friends.

It seems to me that our church has been most blest in the caliber of its ministers, fine, honorable, well educated, real leaders in our community.

Looking back, thinking of our pioneer ministers, and the men and women I knew as a child, I wonder if we today, even standing on tip toe, can come within reaching distance of their stature."

We should be very grateful for our heritage and make every effort to carry on the high standard that has gone before."

*

One hundred years of history! This church has survived four wars and many periods of depression. It has been served by fourteen pastors, in three churches, while the membership has gone from five to over four hundred. The greatest period of growth was during the pastorate of Dr. Smith. Special evangelistic services were held nearly every year. Rev. Chas. Jackson was here twice. At his final service, schools were dismissed, and business houses closed from 2:00 to 4:00 that all might hear him.

Taking twenty-five year periods, the records show the growth in membership as follows:

1880.....115	1905.....296	1930.....476	1955.....415
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For over twenty years this church received aid from the Board of Domestic Missions, later changed to "Home Missions" and today known as "National Missions." Rev. Stryker, the first pastor, received \$500.00 per year; \$200.00 being paid from our church and the balance by the Board of Domestic Missions. The janitor received \$6.00 a month. Money was paid in quarterly payments and three collectors were elected annually to call on the members and receive their pledges. With the introduction of the envelope system, wherein money was paid in weekly, the treasurer was for the first time able to pay the bills currently.

The pastor's salary rose from \$500.00 to \$1100.00 and then \$1500.00, while Rev. Malcolm was here. For years it remained at \$1500 and manse. Today, with pension payments, it is over \$5000.00.

The period of greatest giving was reached under Dr. Marshall's leadership. The Manse was built. The Benevolent giving increased greatly. The Church supported Rev. and Mrs. Nygaard in their work in South America.

In its early days this Church organized a Presbyterian Church in Hawleyville, and in 1884 thirty-three members took their letters from this church to organize one at Yorktown. Neither church exists today.

In 1860 when plans were being made for building a church, Articles of Incorporation were drawn and Anthony Loran, B. B. Hutton and George Ribble elected as trustees.

The following year the first Deacon was elected—Thomas Evans. As was stated, the sole purpose of the Board of Deacons, was to care for the poor and needy of the church. We read in the minutes of 1900 "The County must not be allowed to furnish necessities to the poor in our church."

The records of both these Boards are incomplete. There were times when there was no Board of Trustees. For a period we had a Financial Board, and periods when

the Board of Trustees was quite inactive, holding a few meetings, having difficulty in getting a quorum. At one such time, during the 30's, Mrs. Jessie Shambaugh was elected to the Board and became its Chairman. The first meeting she had a full attendance! She had invited all to her home for dinner. This group became a very active, most helpful Board and has remained so to the present day. So many splendid business men have given their time, abilities and advice in their service as Trustee. Today they do a splendid job in caring for the church properties, conducting the Every Member Canvass and helping wherever needed.

The Board of Deacons has been more constant through the years. Its purpose has remained essentially the same, though at one time they were assigned the task of collecting the pledges from the members. Today, in addition to their regular duties, they have charge of the Communion Service.

Since World War II, much work has been done on the interior of the Church, through the joint efforts of the women and the Trustees. Perhaps the greatest change is to be found in the kitchen. Many can remember the struggle one had with those old coal ranges, which were never hot at the right time, and always full of ashes; washing dishes in low, shallow sinks, climbing up on high stools to put dishes away; working hours on the hard concrete floors, and the eternal struggle with mice!

Today there is a large gas range, low, metal cupboard units, new sinks, the floor is covered with rubber tile, and attractive curtains at the windows. In equipment, a refrigerator and two electric roasters have been acquired. The Alpha Circle has given a coffee urn and a large electric mixer through their sale of baskets and extracts. So, today, it is a joy to be called on "K. P." duty.

In the dining room, newly painted walls, a floor covering of vinyl tile and new tables have made a pleasing change.

The north room in the basement for years served as a catch-all for broken chairs, old pictures, books,—and trash. A major job of housecleaning was done in this room, a partition put in separating it from the furnace room, a ceiling added and the walls painted. Most of this work was done in the evenings by the Young Couples' Sunday School Class. Today this is an attractive room, used by this class on Sunday mornings, and by the Boy Scouts, and the youth groups at other times.

On the main floor of the church, a kitchenette has been equipped with sink, two-burner gas plate and dish cupboard, which is used in connection with the serving of teas, wedding receptions, the monthly women's meetings and other small groups. The entire church has been freshened in recent years with paint, the floors and woodwork cleaned and refinished, and the stained glass windows repaired from the damage caused by BB guns.

A grand piano has been added to the auditorium.

To comment on the organizations, the various pastorates, to mention a few of the leading families, is not telling the complete story. It takes hundreds of individual members, and there has been over twenty-five hundred, daily living their religion, giving of their time and talents and substance, to the work of the Master to make a Church grow.

In writing any history one must look backwards. But it is the present membership who will carry the Church forward to greater achievements. We have today a large group of talented Junior High and Senior High students. In addition, there is as fine a group of young married couples as one could find anywhere. Fully aware of their great heritage, they will, with God's help, carry the work of the Kingdom to greater heights.

* * *

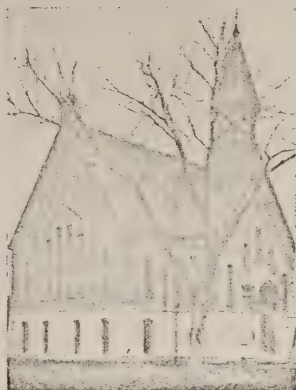
The success of any organization is the lengthened shadow of those men and women who served. It is impossible to name each and everyone who helped to build our church, due to lack of space and from time to time, faulty records.

BUILDINGS



In 1860 Trustees Anthony Lorz and B. B. Hutton were authorized to select a site and build a church, the cost not to exceed \$1200. In February, 1861, the new church was presented. It was a white frame building, standing on the site of our present church; two doors in front, three windows on each side, and a neat square belfry in which swung the bell that Mr. Lorz hauled from Illinois. The lots were donated by J. H. Powers. But the building, "after using all the economy in their power," had cost a little over \$1800. An extra lot was sold to defray part of this debt and most of the balance was advanced by Anthony Lorz. This building was used for twenty years.

In February, 1881, the Congregation voted to build a new church. The only instruction given was that it should not cost less than \$7000. Elected to the Building Committee were V. Graff, Dr. N. L. VanSandt, O. A. Kimball and J. H. Dunlap, with Henry Lorz as secretary. While the work was being done, the congregation met in Hawley's Opera House. On June 11, 1882, the building was dedicated, Dr. Ewing, president of Parsons College, preaching the sermon from the text, "I will make the place of my feet glorious." The entire cost of the church was \$11,000, all of which was provided without a collection on the day of dedication.



By 1909 the second church was in need of repair and the congregation wanted to install a pipe organ. The cost of repairs and organ was estimated to be \$8000. So at a congregational meeting held in May, 1909, it was voted to build a new church on the same site, the cost of the building, plus the furnishings and the pipe organ, to be \$35,000. A large general committee of twenty-one was selected, with Henry Lorz as Chair-

man, T. L. Brown, Secretary, and Hugh Miller, Treasurer. The following Committees were elected:

Building—G. E. Clayton, G. G. Graff, A. F. Beal, G. Wm. Richardson, S. E. Sperry.

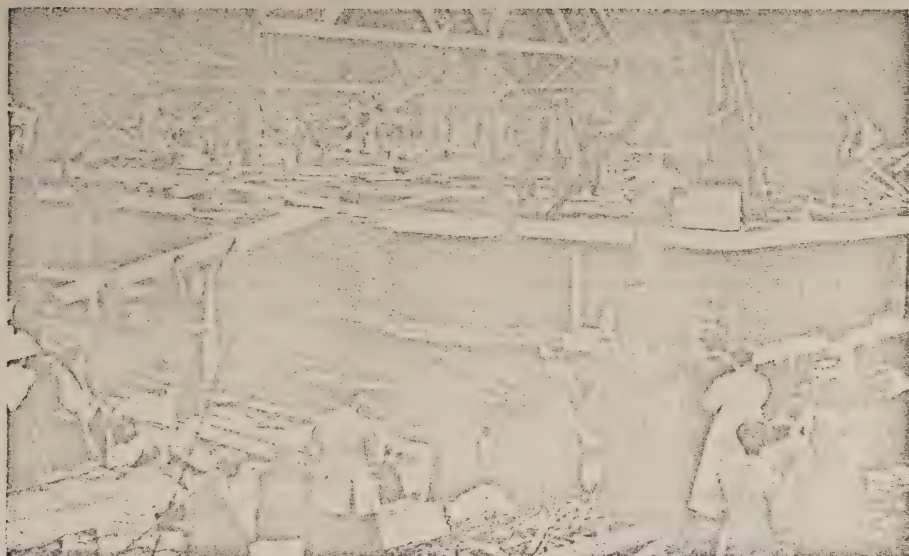
Soliciting—G. Wm. Richardson, C. L. Beech, V. Graff, C. S. Foster, R. E. Lee, W. A. Henderson, William Ward.

Pipe Organ—A. B. Lorz, C. S. Foster, Mrs. H. E. Parslow, Mrs. R. J. Matthews, Mrs. Elizabeth Jones.

Furnishings—C. E. Blair, Mrs. W. A. Henderson, Mrs. E. T. Farrens, Mrs. Earl Peters, Mrs. R. E. Lee.

* * *

LAYING THE CORNERSTONE OF OUR PRESENT CHURCH



On the morning of August 31, 1910, the cornerstone of the third church was laid. Rev. Robert A. Cameron, the pastor, presided. Rev. W. C. Williamson, D. D., pastor of the United Presbyterian church, offered prayer. Rev. William Stevenson, pastor of the Methodist church, read the Scripture. A history of the church was read by Prof. J. A. Woods, followed by a short address by Henry Lorz.

A copper box, securely soldered, was placed in the corner stone. The box contained the following articles:

- A Bible, presented by G. L. Graff,
- Copy of the addresses given by Prof. Woods and Henry Lorz,
- Roll of church members and officers,
- Programs and officers of all the different organizations,
- Copy of the church magazine, "The Interior,"
- Copies of the three local papers, the Journal, Herald and Democrat.

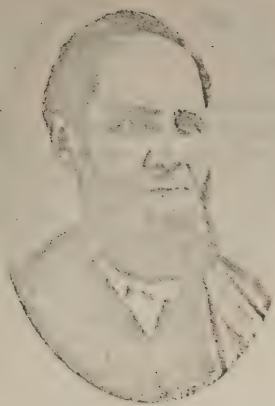
Mrs. J. D. Hawley, a member for fifty-four years, having joined the church in 1856 as Elisabeth McAlpin, had been selected to lay the cornerstone. Rev. Cameron presented her with a new trowel, she spread the mortar, the stone was lowered into place and Rev. Cameron pronounced the benediction.

The dedication service of the new church was held June 29, 1913. The day began with the Sunday School service at 9:30, followed by the church service at eleven when the official dedication took place, the keys being presented by Mr. George Clayton of the Building Committee to Jesse Christensen, President of the Board of Trustees. At three o'clock a "Fellowship Service" was held, and at eight o'clock a Union Evening Service, with W. E. Parsons, President of Parsons College, the speaker.

Rev. William H. Wilson was the pastor at the time.

PASTORS

"So long Thy power hath led us,—
Sure, it still will lead us on."



REV. W. M. STRYKER

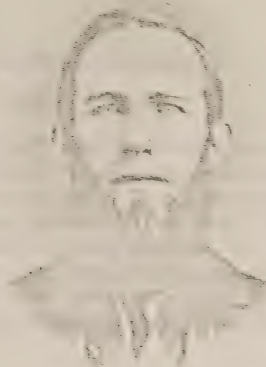
1859 - 1863

The pastorate of Rev. Stryker resulted in large growth to the church. He was an earnest, impulsive man, energetic and hopeful in temperament. During his service the church was incorporated, in 1880, with B. B. Hutton and Anthony Loran trustees.

REV. H. H. WHITE

1864 - 1866

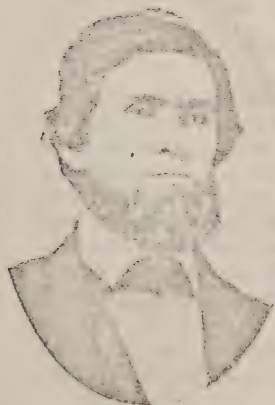
In 1854 H. H. White, a licentiate, supplied the pulpit. He was an excellent preacher. But the following year he was ordained and accepted the pastorate of the church at Sidney, Iowa.



REV. JAMES W. CLARK

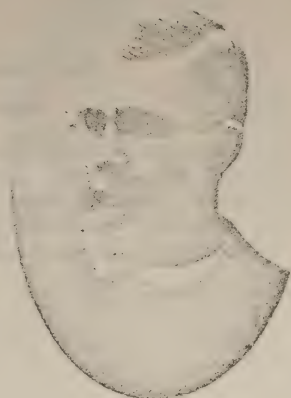
1866 - 1868

A minister of rare talent and force of character. For two years he worked, building up the church in numbers and infusing the fire of his own ardent spirituality into it. Ill health compelled him to resign in 1869.

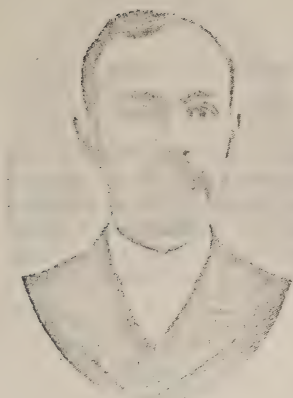


REV. R. R. WESTCOTT**1869 - 1879**

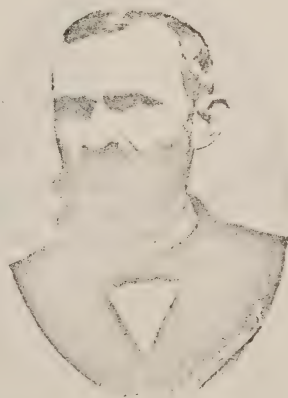
R. R. Westcott was a gentle soul, kindly and wise and much respected. Under his faithful ministry the church grew and strengthened and became self-supporting.

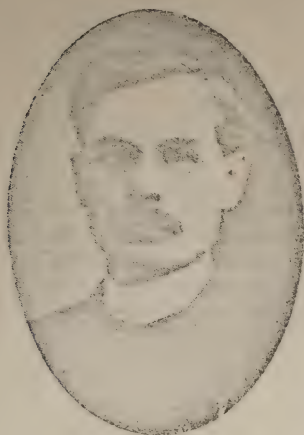
**REV. JAMES H. MALCOLM****1880 - 1887**

Rev. Malcolm, tall, slender, quick and dynamic, and very friendly, he is thus described by those who remember him. Forceful in the pulpit, he formed the habit of reading his sermons to his wife Clara, for criticism, and insisted that she invariably cut out the best part! If young folk whispered he was apt to call them out by name from the pulpit. He was a most welcome guest at the 40th anniversary observance of the Church.

**DR. T. C. SMITH****1887 - 1901**

Dr. Smith served the church for fourteen years. He was a rare person of great wisdom, deep religious faith, radiating cordial fellowship. About 500 persons were added to the membership during his pastorate. One hundred came in at one time following evangelistic services held by the Rev. Jackson. Fifty joined at another time and some at nearly every communion service. It was on his recommendations that Prof. O. P. Fairchild was brought to Clarinda to open the C. E. I. to prepare a group of young people for college as the high school did not measure up to the requirements at that time.

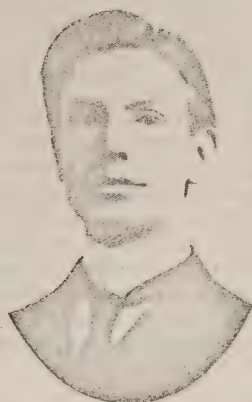


**REV. J. N. MACLEAN****1902 - 1909**

Rev. Maclean, a red-headed Scotch Presbyterian, handsome and highly intelligent. Both Rev. Maclean and his wife were constantly helpful leaders. Their two sons were born to them while they were here. Rev. Maclean was always especially popular with the men—"a man's man."

REV. R. A. CAMERON**1909 - 1912**

Rev. Cameron, an eager, youthful man, coming to our church for his first charge after finishing Seminary. Of course all the young ladies wished especially to know him, but soon he went away for a few days and brought back a charming bride to be beside him and help him in the many fine things he did for the church.

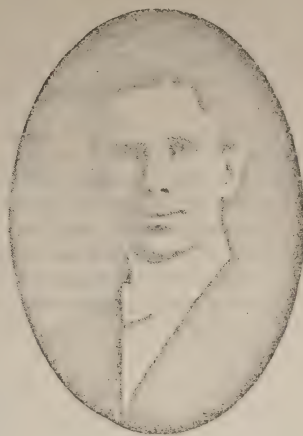
**REV. WILLIAM H. WILSON****1913 - 1915**

Rev. Wilson was a tall, stately man, very intellectual and cultured. He was with us just a few years. He was the first minister to wear the robe in our pulpit.

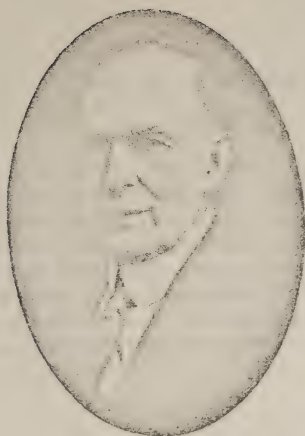


REV. DAVID S. CURRY**1916 - 1918**

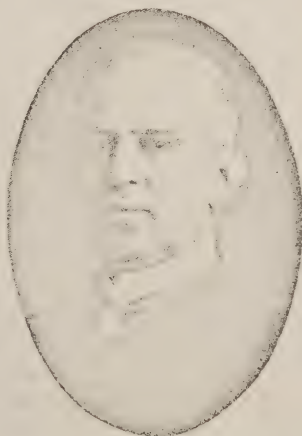
Rev. Curry, of Scotch-Irish descent, was a man with a very friendly manner, and a pleasing personality. He was witty and had a quick, dynamic way of doing things, whether it was preaching a sermon, or hunting in the surrounding countryside. He loved to hunt and fish for relaxation.

**DR. A. B. MARSHALL****1920 - 1925**

Dr. Marshall was installed as our pastor on Oct. 12, 1920. He came to us from Omaha Theological Seminary. He was a scholarly man of great ability as a preacher and teacher. He seemed to preach and teach with authority and yet always in the finest spirit of helpfulness. All departments of the church were strengthened under his leadership. It was during his pastorate that the present manse was built. It was also during this period that Rev. and Mrs. Nygaard represented this church at Bogeta, Columbia.

**DR. A. B. THUTT****1926 - 1942**

We were always proud of Dr. Thutt whenever he spoke at any special community gathering of service. Somehow he always knew the right thing to say and the right way to say it. He led the adult class in Sunday School, which grew in numbers and in strength during his teaching and were helped by the discussions he prompted. Mrs. Thutt, with her gentleness, her loving skill and her practical ability, helped us all.





REV. RICHARD J. DIEKEN

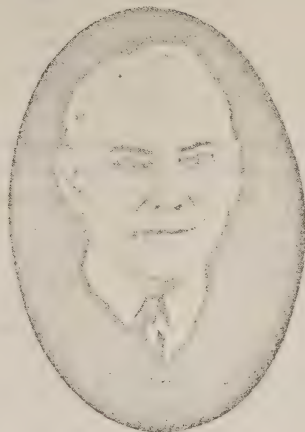
1943 - 1948

Young and strong and with a great vision, he led us on into a deep consciousness of the needs and challenging problems around us. Mrs. Dieken was a radiant helpmate. She taught us lessons of true home-making as she so lovingly cared for their two little sons who were born to them during their pastorate here.

REV. D. CLARENCE DAVIS

1948 -

Rev. Davis, the faithful, sincere pastor, who is helping us so much now. With his wife and two boys, they are a very part of our lives. Rev. Davis has poured out understanding leadership to our boys and girls and young people with results that cannot be measured. He has worked out great beauty in the form of our services. He has shared his consecration, his spirit and his high ideals of living in Christ's way.



OUR CHURCH

It stands on the corner where people can find it,
And waits with a welcome for you and for me;
Not homeless is he who its portals shall enter,
In the House of our Father, no stranger can be.

It's the church of the home-folks,
The church of the stranger,
The church on the corner is home for us all.

How sweet is the thought as we linger a moment,
To picture the scenes that have made it so dear,
That though we may wonder, fall far short of duty,
There waits for us ever, a warm welcome here.

THE SESSION

Many fine men have served on the Session, giving hours of their time, their best thoughts and their prayers, that the church might continue to grow, both spiritually and numerically.

Below is a list of those who served as Clerk of Session, keeping not only the Minutes of their meetings, but an accurate Membership Roll, giving the names and dates of all new accessions, the dates of baptisms, the record of deaths, and of those who were dismissed by letter.

B. B. Hutton.....	1855 - 1861
J. C. McCandless	1861 - ?
Henry Loran	1867 - 1897
D. G. Burleson.....	1897 - 1900
J. E. Phillips.....	1900 - 1903
J. A. Woods.....	1903 - 1906
Henry Loran	1906 - 1919
Jesse Christensen	1919 - 1945
L. M. Cassat.....	1945 - 1947
A. F. Driftmier.....	1948
L. M. Cassat.....	1949 - 1951
A. F. Driftmier.....	1952
L. M. Cassat.....	1952 - 1955

In 1947 the ending of the church year was changed from March 31 to December 31st. About the same time the rotary system of office was put into effect, whereby no one could hold office more than three years in succession. The names of those now serving on the Session are listed on page 34.

* * *

THE SESSION OF 1898



Bottom Row—D. G. Burlson, Clerk; Rev. T. C. Smith, Dr. J. P. Brown
Second Row—G. Wm. Richardson, D. G. Sutherland. Third Row—J. E. Phillips

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

The Sunday School is older than the church, having been organized early in 1855 as a Union School and continuing as such for four years. B. B. Hutton was the first Superintendent. Most of the teachers were Presbyterians. The meetings were held in the second story of the court house until the first church was completed.

Serving as Superintendents we find the following names: Anthony Loran, J. A. Woods, W. M. Alexander, T. E. Clark, Henry Loran, William Shoemaker, Eugene Starr, G. W. Thomas, George H. Colbert, D. G. Sutherland, Bertha Loran, Walter Cramer, Hugh Miller, C. L. Beech, Homer Stephens, Roscoe Applegate, Mrs. Emma Humphrey, Dr. E. W. Freeland, L. M. Cassat, Clinton Turner, Roscoe VanDyke, Wm. C. Hemphill, Port Stitt, Kenneth Heiliger, and Dr. James Campbell. No doubt there are other names which should be added to this list, but unfortunately annual reports seem more concerned with money than people, and in the case of the Sunday School were invariably signed by the Secretary or Treasurer, seldom making any mention of the Superintendent. Also the number of teachers were listed, but seldom were named.

In 1909 the list of teachers was given as follows: Miss Fannie Orth, Frank Hurdle, Rufus E. Lee, Mrs. J. E. Phillips, Miss Jennie Tharp, Miss Florence Burleson, C. L. Beech, Mrs. S. E. Sperry, G. Wm. Richardson, Mrs. R. J. Matthews.

The history of a Sunday School is made up largely by its teachers. It would be impossible to include a write-up of each of the many very splendid men and women who have given of themselves to teach the youth of our church. We have included only a few, chosen at random from the many.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASS OF 1899



This group composed of girls 16 and 17 years of age. Teacher, Mrs. Margaret Wells, mother of Dr. F. P. Wells, dentist. Mrs. Wells was leaving Clarinda and the class held a farewell surprise party for her, the photo being taken the following day.

Seated from left to right: Blanche Miller, Gertrude Thompson Lavelly, Griswold, Iowa; Elsie See; Mabel Kenea Wallin, San Antonio, Texas. Standing: Ina Work Pierce, Clarinda; Ida Reed Munro, late of Colorado Springs, Colo., now deceased; Florence Oehler Douthit, Clarinda; Susanne Richardson Humphrey, Clarinda.

Class formerly taught by Mate Phillips and G. Wm. Richardson.

* * *

TWO FANNIES

A great deal of the history of the Beginners' Class in our Sunday School centers around two teachers, each bearing the name of "Fannie." The record doesn't show when Fannie Orth first began teaching. She joined the church in 1889 and it couldn't have been too long after that that she took over the class of little folks. Her happy, effervescent personality, her great love for children, and her knowledge of the Bible combined to make her a marvelous teacher.

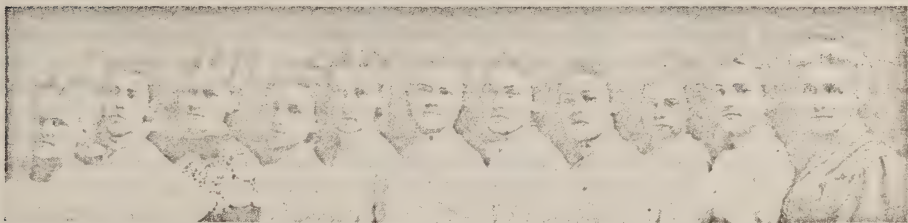
When the last church was completed, the Beginners' Class room, with its furniture and its lovely window showing the Christ child, through the efforts of Miss Orth, was dedicated free of debt and a goodly sum of money turned over to the Building Committee to apply on the Building Fund.

While teacher, Miss Orth secured photographs of most of the children who had belonged to her class. These were mounted on a large sheet of wall board,—177 in all, with the names written underneath and the whole framed. For many years this picture hung in the Beginners' room.

Not long after moving into the new church, Miss Fannie Orth resigned as teacher, and Miss Fannie Oehler took her place. She, too, had a great love for children, a world of patience, and a way of getting and holding the attention of the children. Year after year on Promotion Day her class was graduated into the Primary department, and Miss Fannie would have to start anew. Taking eight or ten little "wiggle-tails," some as young as two, in no time at all she would have them under perfect control, taking part in the singing, passing around with their collection and sitting on their little chairs in a circle, giving rapt attention to the Bible story she was telling. Everyone enjoyed the part her Beginners' class took in the Children's Day program each June.

* * *

THE 190? CLASS OF YOUNG LADIES



Zua Richardson, Lucile Robinson, Wilma Oehler, Margaret Farrens, Lorene Lundy, Bernice Reed, Winifred Mankle, May Mankle, Belle Sanger, Rae Harrell, Mrs. Sperry

Mrs. S. E. Sperry took a class of young girls when they graduated from the beginners' class and kept them until they were young ladies. A wonderful student of the Bible, one who had the real gift of teaching, and an understanding personality, Mrs. Sperry was greatly loved by her class.

Each Friday evening after school, she had the class come to her home and for an hour they studied the next Sunday's lesson for Sunday School. This also included a

great deal of memory work. One remembers also the large plate of sugar cookies—three inches across!

When boys came into the picture, Mrs. Sperry had her girls stay for supper, and then invited the boys in for the evening of games.

Every summer she took her class out to "Fairyland" for an all day picnic. Her son Howard, and a neighbor boy, George Martin, took the baskets out in the horse drawn buggy. The class walked out in the morning, waded the creek, played games, devoured two meals and walked back by moonlight.

When Mrs. Sperry moved to San Diego, Calif., Jessie Field (Shambaugh) taught the class until college and marriage caused it to disband.

* * *

THE COLBERTS

It doesn't take years to make one's service felt in a church. Mr. and Mrs. George Colbert were only in the church four years, from May 1902 to December 1906, but in that time Mr. Colbert had served as Sunday School Superintendent and as a member of the Session. Mrs. Colbert was active in the Women's organizations, but probably will be best remembered as a teacher in the Sunday School.

About the time the Colberts joined our church, Billy Shoemaker gave up a class of teen-age boys, and Mrs. Colbert was induced to take them over.

She was a little lady, deeply religious, with a twinkle in her eyes, a good sense of humor, a lot of patience and a thorough understanding of boys, having three of her own, Herschel, Philip and Ned. One night while getting the clothes ready for the family wash she found a pipe in the pocket of Phil's pants! She called to her husband to look quickly in Ned's diapers to see if there might be a deck of cards there!

Mrs. Colbert took over our class in her quiet way and soon had us listening to the well prepared messages she brought to us each Sunday. Our class room was the church kitchen on the west side of the old church, with two windows opening at about the ground level outside which we could use as an entrance if late, and a hasty exit if the fire whistle blew.

One morning one of the Travor boys, whose folks lived on the Crabill farm, came to the window during class and told Mrs. Colbert that he and his two brothers had been swimming in the river and his younger brother had dived and failed to come up, and wanted the class to go down and help find him. Mrs. Colbert dismissed the class and out through the window we went and down to the river. Quite a crowd had gathered by that time and we went slowly down the river, covering every foot of the bottom. Finally at a bend, Lew Abbott located the body in a brush pile and after two or three dives, it was brought up. Something no one in that class will ever forget.

Mrs. Colbert used to take us on picnics and furnish all the food. She would watch our ball games, but we could never get her to act as umpire! She gave us parties in the church and sometimes had the girls, too. At one party she asked that we wear something on the lapel of our coats, something to represent title of a book, and when we arrived we started guessing the books. She herself wore a picture of the class pinned on her. We finally had to give up, — and, her book was "Wild Animals I Have Known."

We all hated to see her give up the class when they moved to Maryville.

—W. S. Richardson

PHILATHEA BIBLE CLASS

The Philathea Bible Class for young women and mothers, was organized April 15, 1912, with Mrs. Atta Christensen as teacher. She continued as teacher for twenty-five years, until her death in 1937—seldom being absent.

Mrs. Christensen was a fine, thorough student of the Bible, an understanding, loveable person with a fine sense of humor which accounted for her popularity as a teacher and a sincere friend.

From the inception of the class it was primarily missionary. She urged the class to give voluntarily of their time, talents and money toward work for others. In our home city they helped with a Sunday School in the east part of Clarinda; to many homes they took cheer, encouragement, food and clothing; a girl was outfitted with clothing that she might attend college; during the Holiday season many baskets were filled with food and gifts for those less fortunate.

Mrs. Christensen's interest in Foreign Missions was shared by her class. Of special interest was the work done at Elat Cameroun province in Africa by Mrs. McCleary, a woman from Fairfield, Iowa. Throughout the years from three to as many as seven native workers were supported at Elat by this class. In addition one or more native workers in China were supported.

Contributions of the class were given in two different ways. For the expense of the local Sunday School, the regular offering envelope was passed, into which each contributed. Mrs. Christensen felt that no one should know what any member of the class gave. So each Sunday morning a thick folded newspaper was laid on the library table in the center of the class room and as each member entered the room she slipped her offering, large or small, under the paper. It was from these table contributions that all the work for others' use was carried on.

The class enjoyed regular social meetings, which included covered-dish suppers, often meeting with Mrs. Christensen and in other homes. At times evenings would be spent knotting comforters to be given where needed.

It was with a glow of pride that former pupils of Mrs. Christensen read of the present work being done at Elat in a recent issue of Presbyterian Life.

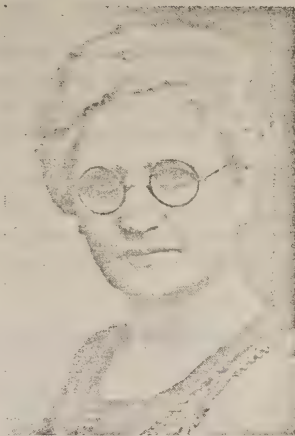
—Mrs. Emma Humphrey

* * *

ETHEL USTICK

There are some who feel that teachers of boys should have an extra halo given them. Girls are made of "sugar and spice," but an added teaspoon of spice must have been poured in when little boys were made! The Clarinda Church has been fortunate in having many splendid teachers of boys throughout its long history. One of these was Miss Ustick.

Jolly, understanding, a good Bible student, she taught boys for forty years in our school. Week after week she would drill them in the Books of the Bible, the ten commandments,—have them memorize many verses and entire chapters of the Bible. She never allowed herself to become involved in too many activities so her life centered around her home, her school, where she taught for fifty years, and her church.



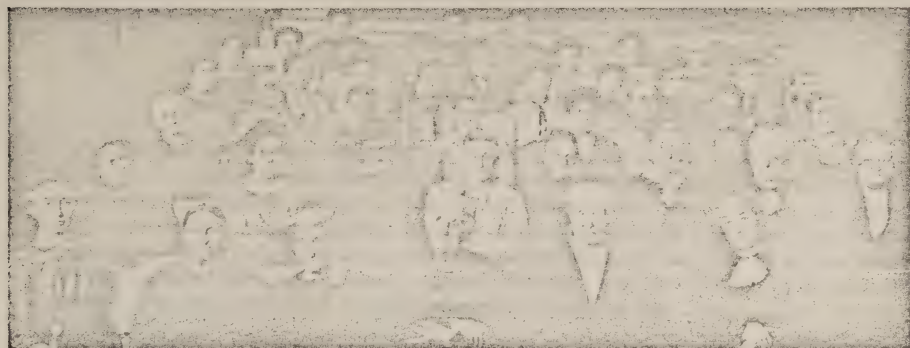
SOROSIS BIBLE CLASS

The Sorosis Class was organized in January, 1908, in the home of Mrs. Rufus E. Lee. Constitution and By-laws were adopted and the following officers elected: President, Mrs. F. W. Parish; Vice President, Mrs. E. T. Farrens; Secretary, Mrs. Ira Christie; Treasurer, Mrs. Lee.

Mrs. Mary B. Clark was chosen to be the teacher, a position she held for many many years. Under her leadership the class grew to nearly one hundred members, with always a large attendance on Sunday mornings.

They had many social events, including teas, garden parties, picnics, banquets. When the third church was built, they raised enough money to pay for the stained glass windows in their room, (the large east room on the second floor of the Sunday School) and the chairs and teacher's table and turned in \$500.00 to the building fund besides.

When Mrs. Clark became physically unable to continue her teaching, Mrs. E. T. Farrens, her able substitute for many years, took over the task. She, too, continued as long as her health would permit. Mrs. Fred Johansen carried on a few years until the class was disbanded. This class had a continuous history longer than any other in the history of this church.—Mrs. Anna Clark.



SOROSIS BIBLE CLASS - 1913

Bottom Row—Teacher, Mrs. T. E. Clark, Mrs. A. B. Cramer, Mrs. Briggs, Mrs. N. L. VanSandt, Mrs. B. Shoemaker, Miss Melissa Black.

Second Row—Mrs. Chas. Beech, Mrs. Rufus Lee, Mrs. Dan Hoffman, Mrs. Rachel Robinson, Mrs. Wilson Wood, Mrs. A. Harvey, Mrs. F. W. Parrish, Mrs. W. J. Anderson.

Third Row—Mrs. O. A. Kimball, Mrs. Chas. Houston, Mrs. Levi Blair, Mrs. Tom Millhone, Mrs. Geo. Annan, Mrs. David Tharp, Mrs. James Fleming, Mrs. Warren Stevens.

Fourth Row—Mrs. Wm. Keeney, Mrs. E. T. Farrens, Mrs. I. D. Christie, Mrs. Geo. Clayton, Mrs. J. P. Brown, Mrs. Art Hawley, Mrs. Ralston, Mrs. Tom Phillips, Mrs. Chas. Hill.

Fifth Row—Mrs. H. W. Woods, Mrs. Clarence Johnson, Mrs. Wm. Burwell, Mrs. J. R. Farris, Mrs. Wm. Waugh, Mrs. Robert Cameron, Mrs. W. A. Henderson, Mrs. G. W. Richardson, Mrs. J. Christensen.

Sixth (Back) Row—Mrs. Wm. Woods, Mrs. R. D. Farrens, Mrs. T. E. Powers.

PORT STITT

To many boys Port Stitt ranks number 1 in their ideal of a man. A teacher of boys for many years he earned both their respect and love. He once resigned from the office of Sunday School Superintendent, after serving only a month, to again take a class of boys. During the war he wrote many letters to his boys who were overseas. The fried chicken and watermelon feeds served them at his home will not be forgotten, either!

* * *

MEN'S BROTHERHOOD

During the time Rev. Maclean was here, a new movement known as the Brotherhood, was started. Rev. Maclean, Johnson Handford and G. W. Richardson went back to Indianapolis to a meeting to learn of it. On their return they started a group in the church. Rev. Maclean was the teacher. It was distinctly a Bible study group, and its purpose was to bring all others who were not attending a church or Sunday School into membership. Each week a list of men was made up and two men from the class were chosen to call on those on the list during the week. The next week, a new list was ready and two other members chosen for calling. Under this method, the class grew until there were from 50 to 75 members.

The class was active for a number of years, then gradually grew smaller, and finally disbanded.

* * *

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF PRESBYTERIAN MEN

The year 1947 saw the start of a new organization for men of the Presbyterian Church. It was two years later, in 1949, that our first representative, Wm. C. Hemphill, went into Chicago to attend a meeting of Presbyterian Men. When he returned he was instrumental in organizing a group in this church which continues with its monthly meetings. Nationally, the movement has grown to such size that this year three conventions had to be held (in San Francisco, Chicago and New York) in order to accommodate the large group of laymen—something over 3000.

In addition to the Men's Group, Mr. Hemphill was instrumental in starting the Breakfast Club, a group of men from all churches who have breakfast together each Thursday morning. Following this, some subject pertinent to the times is brought up for discussion. The group is not all talk, for they have backed several fine projects—displaced persons, etc.

* * *

LEST WE FORGET

Our Church has more to be grateful for to Victoria Stonebraker than many of its members know.

It was during the deepest of the depression years, when banks were closing. Insurance companies had foreclosed on many Page county farms and it was a constant effort to meet the bills for our church. We learned through an attorney that Victoria Stonebraker had left to our church in her will, a mortgage on some property in Clarinda, which we might be able to collect in monthly payments. Monthly the trustees went to collect—how big that \$50 seemed each time—until it was all paid—some eighteen hundred dollars—to keep our church going when it was much needed. So as we come to the end of our first one hundred years, we say, "Thank you, Victoria, for a boost over a hard bump financially."

SOU SAN FOULOU

Sou San Fouloy, a native of Canton, China, came to Clarinda in 1889. He established a laundry. Because of the immigration laws at that time, he was unable to bring his family with him. Mrs. Prof. Woods taught him in her home and in her Sunday School class and in January, 1891, he became a member of the Presbyterian Church.

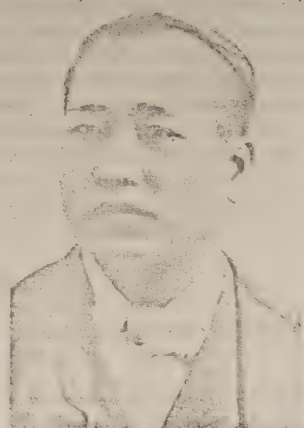
From the time of his conversion he became deeply solicitous for the spiritual welfare of his relatives in China. His dream was to return to his native village and establish a school which should be free and distinctively Christian, to which he would devote his life and money. He went back, rented and fitted up a large building near his native village, meeting all the expenses himself, and giving Rev. A. A. Fulton enough to pay all expenses for a year.

The Christian Endeavor Society of this church shared with him the expense of the school. In appreciation he gave them two beautiful Chinese costumes. In time he returned to Clarinda and carried on his work as before, saving his money for his school.

Many homes were open to him. He was quiet, gentle and appreciative of the Christian fellowship extended to him by the Clarinda Church. At Christmas time many children were made happy with gifts of Chinese toys, while to their parents he gave nuts and fine teas.

Again he returned to Canton where he reported his school growing in numbers and conversions. And in time, word came of his death. There are many today who still remember this outstanding Christian citizen.

* * *



WOMEN'S ORGANIZATIONS

THE LADIES' AID SOCIETY dates back to the very early days of the church. Besides being a social group, it has raised money by various ways for use in the church building and later for the upkeep of the Manse. Early projects consisted of a Fair, Art Exhibit, Lectures, the making of quilts and many ice cream "Sociables," held on the church lawn, the ice cream having been made by the ladies of the church.

When the present church was built, the Ladies Aid made a pledge of \$2000.00. When the goal was met, they went on and raised and contributed \$750.00 more. This was done by means of Progressive Luncheons, a booth and eating stand at the County Fair, serving the weekly Chambers of Commerce dinners, a Fourth of July dinner, and the St. Patrick's Supper became a tradition.

THE WOMEN'S MISSIONARY SOCIETY was organized April 14, 1878, with seven members. It looked after the needy in our own community as well as a studying and contributing to the larger work of the Women in other lands. This group remained active and loyal throughout the years.

THE MISSION BAND of little folks, both girls and boys, was organized in 1887 by Mrs. T. E. Clark and Mrs. D. G. Sutherland. This group was sponsored by the Missionary Society. Mrs. Sutherland was their leader for twelve years. They met monthly, studied missions, took the magazine "On Land and Sea" and packed numerous boxes to send to mission stations.

THE WESTMINSTER GUILD, later known as the Westminster Missionary Society, was organized for the younger women—young mothers, teachers, working girls, and met in the evenings. A very close tie was held by the members and a great interest in

Missions was instilled by the sponsors, Mrs. T. E. Clark, Mrs. E. T. Farrens and Mrs. George Clayton.

THE ALPHA GROUP of young women was organized in 1936 by Mrs. Tunncliff and Mrs. Klepinger. This was an organization to promote Christian Fellowship, to help newcomers get acquainted and was open to young women outside the church.

THE WOMEN'S WESTMINSTER ASSOCIATION was organized April 6, 1944 to include all the women of the church, thus combining the Ladies' Aid, the Women's Missionary Society, the Westminster Missionary Society and the Alpha Circle. Every woman of the congregation is a member. One general meeting is held each month at the church, and four circle meetings in the homes of members. Six young women have each served two years as president: Mrs. Segrist, Mrs. Joe Tunncliff, Mrs. Paul McClelland, Mrs. Jack Pullan, Mrs. J. B. Martin, and Mrs. Arnold May, with Mrs. Joe Faassen Treasurer. We have found this plan very satisfactory.

* * *

YOUNG PEOPLE'S WORK

The recorded history of our Young People's Society is very meager and will have to be filled in by the memories of many older people now living.

Known in the early days as the Christian Endeavor, it met in the church Sunday evening for an hour, before the regular evening service. In 1903 the Minutes of the Session record that the Christian Endeavor was disbanded and a "Young People's Society" was organized **without a pledge**.

In 1916 the group was reorganized, taking again the name of Christian Endeavor. Later the name Christian Endeavor was dropped and they became the Young People's Group. While Rev. Dieken was here, our young people joined with the Methodist young people under the name of "University of Life." The older ones met together in the Methodist Church, while the younger ones met in the Presbyterian Church. For awhile the groups were large and the attendance good. But later interest died down, attendance dwindled and it seemed best to separate the two groups.

Today we have very active groups of young people under the leadership of the pastor, Rev. Davis. They are known as the Junior and Senior Westminster Fellowships. Many have served as officers in the Presbytery Fellowship groups. Camps, conferences, rallies, plus the weekly meetings, they take part in all.

* * *

DID YOU KNOW

- that our Church has had nine sets of twins among our members? Five sets of this group are active in our Church at the present time.

Myra and Mary Graff
Ruth and Dorothy Clark
Charles and Sherman Pierson
Martha and Marilyn Anderson
Judith and Joan Clovis
Jim and Jerry Graff
Merrill and Sherrill Nelson
Jim and Jeff Cassat
Sandra Jean and Susan Jane Kuehn

AROUND THE WORLD IN THREE HOURS

(Written in 1902)

Jules Verne's "Around the World in Eighty Days" was badly beaten by the ladies of the Presbyterian Church last night, who planned and successfully carried out a tour around the world in three hours. It is the unanimous verdict of all who took the trip that it was the most unique entertainment ever given in Clarinda.

Four "trains," under charge of Conductors Perry Byerly, Fred Loran, Hugh Miller and Billy Ward, left the "union station"—Presbyterian Church—starting at 6:30, 7:00, 7:30 and 8:00 o'clock. The first stop was at Dublin, Ireland (at the home of G. W. Thomas). Mr. Thomas, "a fine old Irish gentleman," with a true Irish hospitality, welcomed the guests to his home. As they passed in, a number of Irish girls, all in costume, were dancing an Irish reel to the music of piano and fiddle and singing "We Kept the Pig in the Parlor." A glance around verified the song. The guests were then taken on a tour of Blarney Castle, where the famous Blarney stone had to be kissed by all. To accomplish this feat one had to go up a step ladder, climb half way through a transom and bend over—a long ways—in order to reach the stone resting on a shelf. The costumes and "make-ups" were splendid. Refreshments consisted of Irish potatoes, brook trout (from the coast of Maine) on crackers, coffee, and Otis Lucas, who was as genuine looking "Mick" as ever crossed over from the auld sod, passed around butter-milk in a jug.

From Dublin the party went to Berlin (at the home of Mrs. Eva Kimball). Here everything was changed. The guests were welcomed by stately fraus and demure frauleins in the costumes and tongue of the Fatherland. The German national colors were profusely used in decorating the house. The entertainment was characteristically German—music. Miss Grace Hamilton, whose magnificent voice charmed all, favored the guests with a number of vocal solos. Refreshments consisted by weinerwurst sandwiches, Switzer cheese, sauer kraut and coffee. In the center of the dining table was an immense pitcher of an amber colored decoction with about three inches of "foam" being "frosting."

The scene now changes to the court of the grand Turk (at the home of W. A. Henderson). The "sick man of Europe"—Joe Anderson—sat on a richly decorated divan complacently smoking his hookah, and surrounded by guards, and the guests bowed low as they passed. Those who were thoughtless or indifferent were compelled by force to make the lowly obeisance. In an adjoining room a number of costumed followers of Mohammed were enjoying a "hooche cooche" or some other kind of a dance, to a musical accompaniment of the regulation sort. In a corner of the throne room a long bearded, turbaned Turk dispensed lemonade. Entering the refreshment hall, all seated themselves cross-legged on the floor and closely veiled, bicycle bloomer appareled houris served a dainty salad course.

The next place visited was Tokio, Japan, (at the home of H. E. Parslow). As the guests entered the odor of burning joss sticks greeted their nostrils. The house was lighted with Japanese lanterns, and the rooms were tastily decorated with fans, parasols, umbrellas and Japanese curios of all kinds. A noticeable article was a huge tea caddy in which tea is imported, standing in the south bay window. Instead of chairs, the guests were provided with mats on which to be seated, and with grave oriental courtesy each was made welcome and offered a cup of tea, served in quaint little Japanese cups. Two little girls in Japanese costumes sat in the middle of the room and rendered some fine mandolin selections. The costumes of all the receiving party were essentially and strikingly Japanese.

"My country, 'tis of thee, sweet land of liberty," we now must sing. Crossing the broad Pacific, the Rockies, the level prairies, the party at last reached Washington,

D. C. (at the home of G. W. Richardson), in time to attend a reception given at the White House in honor of Prince Henry of Germany. Soldiers in regulation uniform guarded the entrance of the White House, and as the dignified colored footman ushered the guests into the reception room they passed down the receiving line and were introduced to the "dignitaries." G. W. Richardson, with glasses on, made a very fair imitation of the president (Teddy Roosevelt) and Dr. Matthews, as Prince Henry, couldn't be beaten, if the published pictures of the prince are a good likeness. Billy Shoemaker who took the part of Captain Hobson, says he had a "smacking good time," and was perhaps the most envied of all the receiving party. Refreshments consisted of ice cream and cake and frappe.

About 200 took the trip, and all were delighted with it. It is indeed difficult to say where a single feature could have been improved. Everything went according to schedule and without the slightest hitch in arrangements. One can scarcely say too much in praise of the entertainment. One thing is certain, no one who went on that trip will ever refer to the "stiff backed Presbyterians" again. All the starch and dignity and formality was gone before the first stop was made.

* * *

A CHOIR OF YESTERDAY



Front Row—Mrs. Stedman, Director; Mrs. Holby, Carrie Loran, Eva Lewis, Lillian Hite, Bess Phillips, Mrs. Loran, Organist.

Second Row—Susanne Richardson, Mr. Holby, Wilbur Brown, ——— Tom Brown, John Burrows, Lena Plank.

Third Row—Phoebe Thomas, Adeline Shaul, Winnie Sharp, Ida Reed, Norma Cart-ridge, Elsie See, ———, Blanche Miller.

Fourth Row—E. R. Bailey, ———

THE MUSIC

Two organs were used by the church before the present pipe-organ. This was purchased at the time of the building of the third church. A committee consisting of A. B. Lorz, Chairman; Charles Foster, Anna Parslow, Elizabeth Jones and Ruth Matthews, was appointed in the spring of 1909 to select and purchase a pipe organ. Prof. Mueller of Tarkio was selected as one thoroughly familiar with organs to assist the committee. The organ chosen cost \$2600.00 and was built by the Estey Organ Co. of Brattleboro, Vt. The stops were chosen by Mrs. Morton, a sister of Mrs. Henry Lorz, who for years was organist in the Congregational church of Oak Park, Ill.

During the one hundred years, only three women have served as organist: Mary Lorz, daughter of Anthony Lorz, Mrs. Henry Lorz and Miss Carrie Lorz, with Mrs. Henry Lorz serving the longest—over fifty years.

It is quite a different story in the matter of Choir Director, for there have been many. Since no record was kept, one can only give a partial list as gleaned from the "Minutes of Session." This includes O. P. Fairchild, W. R. Bennett, Mrs. G. W. Thomas, C. E. Arnold, Prof. Dow, Prof. Bell, John Keener, Carrie Lorz, Susanne Richardson Humphrey, and Mrs. Harriett Davidson.

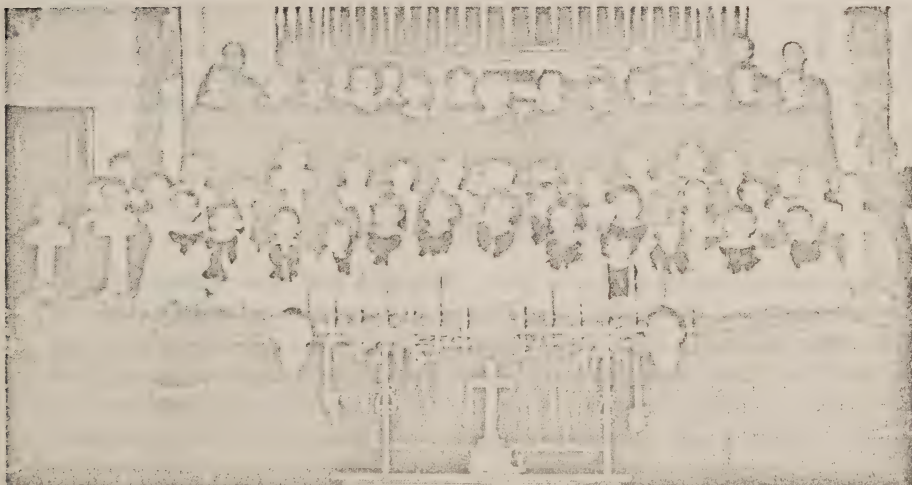
Sometimes the music was furnished by a quartet, but generally there was a chorus choir. At one time the Session gave permission for them to have an orchestra accompaniment for a month and then liking it so well, the time was extended.

Over twenty years ago Mrs. Davidson organized the Junior Choir. Mrs. Helen Hawley has served as accompanist and her very able assistant. Under them many children (some now parents), have received excellent musical training and in return this choir has added much to the morning service.

One service which is looked forward to year after year, is the early morning service of Christmas music, given by the two choirs. The church lighted only by candles, the time 6:30, the beautiful voices and the Christmas message told in song brings a thrill into each heart. This is shared by music lovers of other churches, who are invited to join in the coffee hour which follows.

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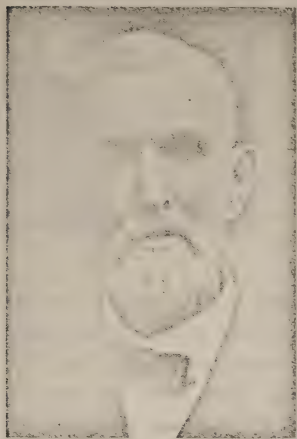
THE CHRISTMAS SERVICE CHOIR 1955



THE HENRY LORANZ FAMILY

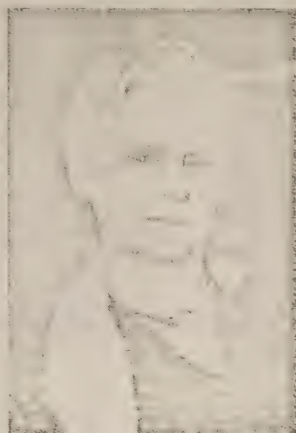
Throughout the years, members of the Henry Loran family have given greatly in faithful service. Mr. Loran served as Sunday School Superintendent, as Elder and for forty-three years was Clerk of the Session. His accurate records, so beautifully written, are a joy to read today.

Mrs. Loran will ever be remembered for her Ministry of Music. For more than half a century she played the organ for the church services, the piano for Sunday School, prayer meetings, missionary meetings and all church gatherings.



Miss Carrie, a graduate of Oberlin Conservatory of Music, took up where her mother left off and is still "our organist." Both of these could always be counted upon to be there, on time, whenever there was to be music,—regular or special services, weddings, or funerals. Faithful always.

Miss Bertha spent a number of years at Olivet Institute in Chicago. Several summers she brought some of the children home with her for a few weeks out in the open, away from the crowded slums they lived in. During the years she was in Clarinda she served both as teacher and superintendent of the Sunday School, a leader of the Young People, and will always be remembered for her wonderful Children's day programs.



The Loran Home, centrally located, was always open for church gatherings. During the war, when fuel was to be conserved, there were held here Congregational meetings, Prayer meetings, the Session, both the Aid and Missionary groups. Choir practice was held here for years, as was also the Spiritual Life group.

This year Miss Carrie has given the chimes to the church in remembrance of her family and each afternoon at 5 o'clock, people of all ages and from all walks of life pause to listen and enjoy the well loved, familiar hymns.—Jessie Shambaugh.

* * *

DO YOU REMEMBER

MRS. FERGUSON AND HER CHURCH? 2x4's of various lengths, painted white—with the name of a book of the Bible painted in gold letters. As each child appeared on the stage with his book in hand, he told the story of his particular piece—Genesis, Ruth, Daniel, Matthew, Romans—and then put it in its proper place. With the placing of Revelation, a complete church had been built. To this day there are some who still remember part of their lines—"Ruth is such a little book, that it takes a little girl to tell about it."

THE VALENTINE GRAFF FAMILY

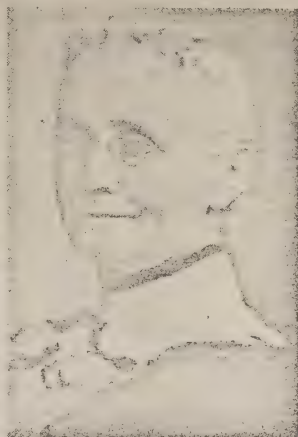


Valentine Graff, owner of one of Clarinda's leading stores, was a long time Elder, while Mrs. Graff was a charter member of the Missionary Society. They contributed most generously to all the Church needs and were faithful always.

Of their five children, three remained in Clarinda, Gerald, and the twins, Myra Eller and Mary Fleenor. All three have been active leaders and loyal members.

MRS. KIMBALL

A lovely lady. One remembers her as gracious, and sweet, faithful and generous. She served as President of the Ladies' Aid, was active in the Missionary Society and in her Sunday School class. Her home, now her daughter's, Mrs. R. J. Matthews, has been open to all church groups for a longer period of years than any other in Clarinda.



* * *

THE STITT FAMILY

One finds the name of Stitt throughout the hundred years of record of the church. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. D. Stitt, who lived east of town, became members in 1873, and were regarded as "pillars" until they left to form a new church in Yorktown. They had eleven children, many of whom were on the roll of our church. Forrest and Port are mentioned elsewhere in the book. Harmon, Artie (Henniger) and Inez (Miller) were active members. Mr. and Mrs. David Stitt came to Clarinda in 1914. Mr. Stitt was an Elder and always had the interest of the Church uppermost in his mind. It was his habit on meeting a newcomer to ask where he went to church and to invite him to this church if he had no other preference. His friendly handshake and greeting, both at the door of the Sunday School and the Church, will always be remembered. Mrs. Stitt was for years an efficient Treasurer of the Missionary Society, and their home was always open to friends and groups when needed.

Their daughter, Flossie, is an able worker in the Women's Association, while Theresa inherited her mother's efficiency as treasurer of both the Sunday School and Church.

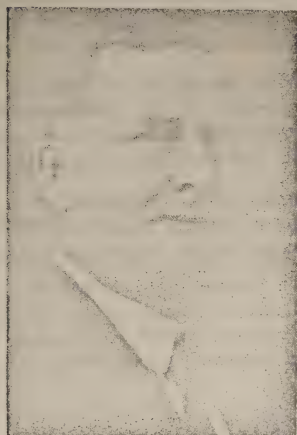
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DO YOU REMEMBER

THE MARVELOUS RECEPTION in the basement of our Church for Jessie and Ira Shambaugh on their return from their honeymoon trip to Hawaii? The play, written and directed by Lois Diehl, and all the Page County Y. W. girls. How the little old red Brush car was represented in pantomime and a warm welcome given the happy pair?

THE G. WM. RICHARDSON FAMILY

Coming to Clarinda in 1886, the Richardsons soon were active members of the Presbyterian Church. Mr. Richardson taught in the Sunday School, was a leader of the Young People's Group, one of the originators of the Men's Brotherhood, and for forty-five consecutive years served as Elder.



Mrs. Richardson enjoyed working in all the Women's Organizations. But most of all they are remembered for their warm, radiant hospitality. They were always happy when their large home was the setting for a church group,—large or small. And many a visiting minister, a missionary, a delegate or choir member was an overnight guest there. In the case of evangelists, some stayed for two or three weeks.

Mr Richardson brought to our church a sense of security, with his business sense, his generous giving and his advice in material as well as Spiritual matters.

Of their four children, three are at present members of the church, Doris having moved to California. Susanne R. Richardson's gift to the church has been her trained, rich contralto voice, and its interpretation of sacred music. A member of the choir and for years its director, she started the evening Vesper Service of sacred music.



Christel R. Cassat, having a gift for executive work and organization, she has served as president of the Ladies' Aid, and President of Corning Presbyterial. For the past ten years she has been Treasurer of Corning Presbyterial.

We wish it were possible to see the smiles on the faces of the great-grandparents as Jim and Jeff, of the fourth generation, come down the steps of the Church which they made a very part of their lives.—Jessie Shambaugh.

* * *

BOY SCOUTS

Around 1911 or 1912 I took over a Boys' Class in the Sunday School that one of the ladies gave up, saying they should have a man for a teacher. I soon found out why—discipline. All good boys, but had gotten out of control. Arlo Hawley, Dick Hoyne, Bob Miller, McKinley Miller, Clarence Miller, Johnnie Liken, Ted Devore, and many more.

I had heard of the Boy Scouts and found where I could write for information and purchased a Scout Manual. With it I set up Thursday night as Boy Scout night at the church. At first we did not have a recognized Boy Scout group, but followed the manual for organization—the different activities in scouting—and soon I could go into the Sunday School Class and have good control and attention.

At the time World War I broke out, there were twenty-six boys in the troop and class, and sixteen of these went into the service, one at a time as they were old enough

to enlist. No two served in the same company. Practically everyone went overseas and all came home, grown men, and many married.—W. S. Richardson.

In 1916, beginning with a nucleus of Presbyterian boys, who had been studying Scouting, Dr. E. W. Freeland organized the first official group of Boy Scouts in Clarinda—"Troop No. 1, Clarinda." Being the only troop in town, it grew rapidly, having as members boys from all the other churches, boys from east Clarinda, and even three boys from Essex, who drove here each week for the meeting. At one time there were thirty-eight in the group and they had to get permission to have that number.

Later, the Methodist church organized a troop under the leadership of C. E. Hoskinson—Troop No. 2, Clarinda. The Methodist boys transferred to that group and later when the Christian church organized, their boys also transferred, leaving Troop 1 a better size to work with. Dick Hoyne and Johnnie Beckner served as assistants.

All supplies had to come from New York. Measurements had to be taken for uniforms, shoes. Orders to be sent in. At times Dr. Freeland states that his office looked more like a freight depot than a dental office! He served eight years or more.

At some time, during a National reorganization, the Presbyterian troop became No. 41, which number it has today. At times the troop became inactive, due to lack of leadership. Today there is a fine group, with Dick Davidson serving as Scoutmaster and Kenneth Cassat Chairman of the Troop Committee.

* * *

A MEMORABLE RECORD

Walter Cramer, having united with the church July 6, 1889, holds the longest record of membership in the church today. He has served both as Secretary and Superintendent of the Sunday School, at times doing supply teaching. He was a member of the choir for a number of years and has served both as a Deacon and as Elder.

* * *

PROFESSOR J. A. WOODS

When Clarinda was much in need of a teacher for the schools, Alfred Woods from Pennsylvania stopped to visit some relatives who had already settled in the vicinity. When it was learned that he was eligible, the board asked him to write his name. That was all the examination—he signed his name in such beautiful handwriting that he was hired on the spot and lived here as the head of the schools for many years. His talents were also given freely to the church, both in the Sunday School and as Elder of long service. As long as he lived, former pupils came back for a visit with their teacher.

* * *

"LET THE WIMMEN DO IT"

In the early days the Session met quarterly. Minutes of June, 1878, tell of the appointment of three Elders, who were asked to purchase 24 Hymn Books.

October Meeting—Committee called on for report. Nothing had been done.

January, 1879—Committee called on for report. Nothing had been done. Committee was dismissed and a new one named in its place: Mrs. Anthony Loranz, Mrs. N. L. VanSandt, Mrs. I. N. J. Hartford.

March, 1879—Committee called on for report. Books had been purchased!

* * *

DO YOU REMEMBER

HOW VICTORIA STONEBRAKER shook her embrella at Ruthie Shambaugh because she would not sit perfectly still in church, and almost scared her into being a statue?

FROM OUR CHURCH TO OTHER FIELDS

A number have gone into full time Christian service from our church:

Florence Young to Alaska.

Milicent Woods to Wasatch Academy, Utah.

Bertha Loran, Olivet Institute, Chicago.

Charles Black, a graduate of Parsons college, and McCormick Theological Seminary, went into the ministry.

Forrest Stitt, also a graduate of Parsons and McCormick, was ordained in our church as a minister of the Presbyterian Church, and is still active today.

Charles Sanger, a former member of this church, and a graduate of Parsons, went into business for a time. Later he entered the ministry and is now located at Eaton, O.

Today Corning Presbytery has under its care one of our Clarinda boys who is planning to go into the ministry, Joedd Miller.



Joining the church in 1947, Joedd has from the first, taken an active part in the work of the youth of the church and fast became a leader.

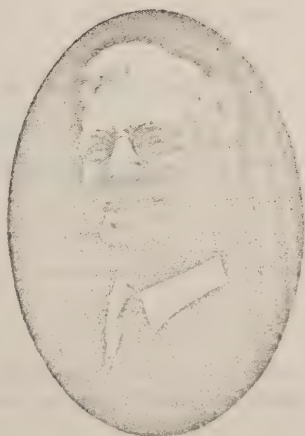
He was Moderator of Iowa Westminster Fellowship, was a delegate to the Christian Youth Conference at Perdue and the National Council of Westminster Fellowship at Lake Forest College, Ill. He is a member of the Religious Life Committee on Parsons College Campus, where he has been a student for two years and this year represented Parsons College at the National conference in Urbana.

In June he leaves for India, where he will take his Junior College year at the University at Allahabad, a campus ambassador, under the Junior Award program sponsored by the Presbyterian church.

Robert A. Cameron, D. D., as he appears today. He is "Minister of Visitation" of the First Presbyterian Church of Santa Ana, Calif.

In 1948 an interesting incident occurred. At the time Dr. Cameron was serving a church which he organized in Encino, Calif, which was meeting in a barn of Edward Everett Horton's. In April, Warren and Gertrude Richardson attended the service there, at which he baptized their granddaughter, Linda Hood. During the service Dr. Cameron spoke of his first pastorate in Clarinda, Iowa:

- of Linda's Great-grandfather, G. Wm. Richardson, being a member of his session,
- of her grandmother, Gertrude Henderson, singing a solo at his installation,
- of his marrying the grandparents, Warren and Gertrude Richardson,
- of baptizing the mother, Mary Richardson Hood, and now baptizing Linda.



GIFTS TO THE CHURCH

THE BELL—Probably the first gift to the new church was the bell. Cast in 1839, it was first hung on a church in Lewiston, Ill. In 1862, Anthony Loran, with his family, paid a visit to his old home and church, making the round trip in a prairie schooner. Upon arrival he learned that Lewiston had built a new church and were no longer using the bell. He persuaded them to give it to the little church in the west and put it in his wagon and hauled it home.

It was the first, and for several years the only church bell in town. It has served all three churches, ringing from belfries in the first two, and from a tall tower at the back of the third. Three times it was taken from the tower and brought into the auditorium to be used as a receptacle for the annual pledges to the church.

COMMUNION SERVICE—Early in the life of the church, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. Hawley presented it with a beautiful silver communion service. This consisted of a tall, graceful pitcher and four goblets, and was used in the first two churches.

In 1904 the church purchased a service of individual communion cups. Recently this set has been given to the new Ridgeway Presbyterian Church at Davenport, Iowa.

The Communion Service in use today was given to the church as a Memorial to Gerald G. Graff by his family and friends. This was presented in time to be used at the World Wide Communion Service, Oct. 5, 1952.

Among other Memorial gifts given in the present church were:

The stained glass windows with bronze markers on them in the auditorium. These were given in memory of Wm. D. Stitt, James H. Dunlap, James E. Phillips Anthony and Barbara Loran and daughter, Mary L. Brown; W. A. Henderson. And in the two vestibules: B. B. and Faith Ann Hutton, T. E. Clark and Mrs. Sarah Loran.

The pulpit Bible given by D. D. Stitt.

The Hymn Books in memory of Rufus and Helen Lee, by their daughters.

Roll of Honor in memory of Forrest H. Davidson, by his mother, Mrs. Allie E. Davidson.

Hymn Board in memory of R. P. Manning, by his daughters, Lois Pearl and Mrs. Josephine Johnson.

The Bronze Cross in memory of Kenneth Lawger, who gave his life in World War II, by his parents.

The Piano in the Sunday School room in memory of F. H. Sperry, by his family and friends.

The Floor in the Nursery in memory of Frank Rotton, by family and friends.

The Guest Book and Pen by Dr. and Mrs. Charles Flynn.

Picture of Christ in the Worship Center of the Sunday School room by the Sorosis Class.

Chimes in memory of the Henry Loran family, by Carrie Loran.

The Pulpit Scarf, Book-Mark Book for recording Gifts, in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Pratt, by his daughters.

Runner for Communion Table, by Mrs. E. T. Farrens.

Mrs. Frank Parish in her will left a sum of money entrusted to the Session. Under its terms the income each year is to go toward the pastor's salary. Thus, her giving to the church continues on long after she herself is gone.

Mr. Fred Gustafson has made and contributed to the church the following gifts:

The little "Treasure Chest" under the north window, into which the pledge cards are dropped each year.

The Baptismal Fount

The Bulletin Boards in the Vestibules

Writing Stand for Guest Book

Coat Racks

Mr. Paul Opitz has given the following gifts:

Iron Railings on outside front steps

Protection for Picture Window on north side

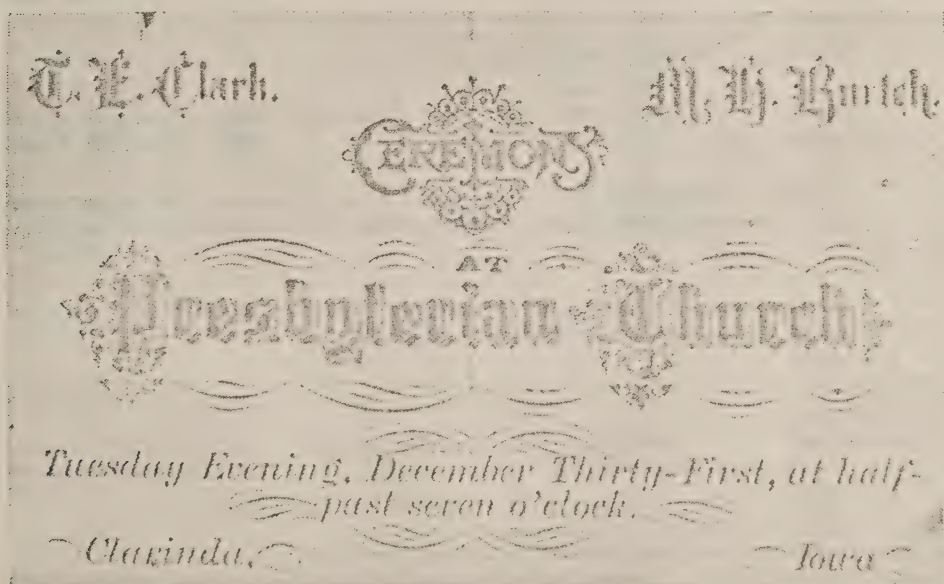
Wardrobe for Choir Robes

* * *

THE FIRST WEDDING

The first wedding in the church was that of Mary Burtch and Talton E. Clark. A copy of the invitation is shown below. The year was 1872.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Clark were leaders in the church throughout their lifetime—loyal and faithful. Their four children, Burtch, Ethel, Jessica and Talton, and several grandchildren, all had a part in the growth of the church.



FOUR GENERATIONS IN THE CHURCH

In these days of changing population, it is interesting to find that our church has today on its active roll those who attend the church, are active in the Junior Choir, the Boy Scouts or the Fellowship groups, who date four generations in membership to this church.

GREAT GRANDPARENTS	GRANDPARENTS	PARENTS	
J. M. Hawley, 1875 Charlotte Hawley, 1861	J. D. Hawley Elisabeth Hawley	Arthur Hawley Nettie Hawley	Arlo
O. A. Kimball, 1866 Eva Kimball, 1866	Ruth K. Matthews	Marjorie M. Sawhill	Janet Linda Bruce
Valentine Graff, 1877 Nancy E. Graff, 1871	Mary G. Fleenor	Kathleen F. Biggs Jerome Biggs	Lindy Jerry John
Wm. D. Stitt, 1873 Nancy Stitt, 1873	Inez S. Miller Fleet Miller	Bertha M. Tomlinson Fred Tomlinson	Beverly Earnest
Mrs. A. B. Cramer, 1881	Walter Cramer Maud Cramer	Max Cramer Ruth Cramer	Stephen
Sam E. Sperry, 1882 Emma F. Sperry, 1881	Fred Sperry	John Sperry Gretchen Sperry	John F. Charles Robert George
John Miller, 1921 Mary Miller, 1921	Aletha Sperry	Dr. Frederick Sperry Mary Sperry	John Rebecca
		Pruella S. Dupris	Vance
G. Wm. Richardson, 1886 Mary S. Richardson, 1886	Susanne R. Humphrey	Roberta H. Geer	Dennis Meta
Mr. & Mrs. G. W. Richardson Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Henderson 1896	Warren S. Richardson Gertrude H. Richardson	G. W. Richardson Roselyn M. Richardson	Bill
Mr. & Mrs. G. W. Richardson	Christel R. Cassat Lyle M. Cassat	Kenneth L. Cassat Patricia W. Cassat	Jeff Jim Jamie
Lambert Millhone, 1893 Fannie M. Millhone, 1893	Florence Millhone	Paul Millhone Margaret Millhone	John Paul Martha Mary Jim Alice
Allie Davidson, 1921	Harold E. Davidson Thelma Davidson	Richard Davidson Jolly Ann	Julie Sue

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DO YOU REMEMBER

THE PICNIC DINNER in the church New Year's Day, 1900? Also others, served by the men?

DURING THE YEAR when Chautauquas were an annual event in Clarinda during the summers? Our Church kept a tent on the grounds for the convenience of visitors. Anyone was welcome to rest in a comfortable rocking chair or write a letter at the table in the tent. Many out-of-town people registered in the guest book. For several years Ethel Ustick and Eda Hoskins (Houston) acted as hostesses.

CAPTAIN O'BRIEN, who came to our church in 1906 to hold evangelistic services, left his imprint upon the community? An old sea captain, his songs and his texts were reminiscent of the sea. Deeply sincere, friendly, earnest, he was the means of adding many new members of the Church.

While here he started a Sunday school at the Pin Hook school house. For a long time afterwards, Johnson Handford continued this work, going out each Sunday afternoon and taking with him Susanne Richardson to lead the singing, and Carrie Loran to play the music.

THE CHICKEN FRIES? Chickens were put in wire baskets and lowered into the deep fat in two large iron kettles back of the church, under which the men kept fires burning. When done to a golden turn, the chicken was passed through the windows and into the church kitchen, and from there onto the tables piping hot! With the rest of the "fixings" prepared by the women, it is something to remember!

PAUL PAGE, the Alaskan boy who was supported and educated by the Sunday School, with the help at times from other organizations?

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL PICNICS held in the Sawhill woods? They were all-day affairs for men left their businesses and spent a day with their families and their church. A committee went out early and put up swings, and a slide with a seat that worked by pulley arrangement and one whizzed from one tall tree to another across the creek! Such excitement! There were games of croquet and much horse-shoe pitching and of course oodles of everything one could think of to eat.

THE TIME THE PICNIC was held down at the Shambaugh mill? Six miles away! That was a real trip! Some went in a hayrack, some in Daddy Montgomery's hack, while others drove their own dobbins. Cars? There weren't "no sich animals" then!

THE WONDERFUL CHRISTMAS PROGRAMS? Perhaps a Cantata with weeks of practice ahead of time. Once the stage had been changed into a ship! And the Christmas tree which followed the play with gifts and treats for all. The wonderful thrill of it!

THE SUNDAY ORCHESTRA, led by George Anderson and his cornet? And speaking of the Andersons, do you remember the first of our early Candle-light Services of Christmas music, with the breakfast following? That was instigated by Mrs. George Anderson. A hearty breakfast was served, too—scrambled eggs 'n everything. Coming on the Sunday before Christmas, a group of young folks home from college took over a large table in the corner and such a pow wow as they had!

THE SUNDAY SCHOOL LIBRARY, - located in the southeast corner of the basement in the second church? What a busy place it was on Sunday mornings! There was no public library in those days. As one member recently wrote, "I recall reading every one of the "Pansy" books. Wonder where they are now?"

OUR CHURCH OFFICERS 1955**ELDERS**

Lyle Cassat, Clerk of Session

Joe Tunnicliff	Port Stitt	A. F. Driftmier	O. C. Wibholm
Howard Sperry	Chas. S. Hutchings	Harland Prather	

TRUSTEES—Kenneth Cassat, Chairman

Arthur Dunshee	Dr. James Campbell	Jack Pullan	Clifford Nelson
Robert Brown	John Brummett	Dr. Kenneth Jensen	Dayre Williams

CHURCH TREASURER—Arthur Dunshee**DEACONESSSES**

Mrs. Jessie Shambaugh	Mrs. Edythe Graff	Mrs. Charles Davidson
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THE CHURCH SCHOOL

Dr. James Campbell, Superintendent

Teachers' and Officers' Conference

Mrs. H. E. Davidson, President	Mrs. D. C. Davis, Vice President
Mrs. Vera Standage, Recording Secretary	
Mrs. W. C. Hemphill, Corresponding Secretary	
Mrs. Leo Cox, Youth Budget Chairman	
Mrs. James Campbell, Treasurer	

WESTMINSTER FELLOWSHIP

Peggy Owen, Moderator	Don Girard, Vice Moderator
Lynette Lightfoot, Clerk	Fred Jeffrey, Treasurer

JUNIOR WESTMINSTER FELLOWSHIP

Alice Millhone, Moderator	Larry Bussard, Vice Moderator
Linda Barnes, Clerk	J. R. Adams, Treasurer

MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

J. Y. Biggs, President
 Richard Davidson, Vice President
 Robert Brown, Secretary-Treasurer

SENIOR AND JUNIOR CHOIRS

Mrs. Harriett Davidson, Director
 Mrs. Arlo Hawley, Accompanist
 Miss Carrie Loran, Organist

BOY SCOUTS

Richard Davidson Scoutmaster	Robert Brown, Assistant
Troop Committee—Kenneth Cassat, Chairman	Harry Bussard, Institutional Rep.
Dr. Frederick Sperry	Leo Cox
Arthur Dunshee	Harland Prather

WOMEN'S WESTMINSTER ASSOCIATION

Mrs. A. A. May, President

Mrs. Clifford Nelson, First Vice President (Service)	Mrs. O. K. Brewer, Rec. Sec.
Mrs. Howard Sperry, Second V. P. (Program)	Mrs. Fred Jeffrey, Cor. Sec.
Mrs. Fred Tomlinson, Third V. P. (Membership)	Mrs. Joe Faassen, Treasurer
Mrs. Harry Carney, Chairman Nominating Committee	
Mrs. Harold Davidson, Chairman Flowers	Mrs. J. F. Bening, Church Flowers

CIRCLE CHAIRMEN

Alpha Circle—Mrs. Max Cramer	Delta Circle—Mrs. Charles Davidson
Beta Circle—Mrs. Margaret Owen	Gamma Circle—Mrs. R. J. Matthews

CHAIRMEN OF RECEPTION COMMITTEE

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Miller

CUSTODIAN

Andrew Williams, LI 2-6818

HEAD USHERS

O. K. Brewer Harry Bussard

MINISTER—Rev. D. C. Davis - Residence—LI 2-3462, Study—LI 2-2865

OUR SINCERE THANKS - -

This Book represents the joint efforts of several people. Miss Ethel Ustick, as Chairman of the History Committee, did the ground work in gathering data and pictures. Forced to resign because of illness, she passed away in April. The work was then carried on to completion by Mrs. L. M. Cassat, Mrs. Anna B. Clark, Mrs. Jessie Shambaugh, Committee, with the assistance of Mrs. Ruth Matthews, W. S. Richardson, Mrs. Emma Humphrey, Mrs. Roy Houston, Mrs. Ina W. Pierce, and Mrs. Mary Fleenor.

* *

The Committee desires to express their sincere thanks to Chas. S. Hutchings and the Artcraft crew for the printing of the book. The splendid pictures, the arrangement of material, his patience and his kindly advice, his hours of work,—in all a fine contribution to his church.

* *

One is conscious of the many omissions. No mention has been made of the many devoted workers of the past twenty-five years. To include all who gave of themselves for the building of the Presbyterian Church of Clarinda during the course of a century, would require months of research and writing.

* *

As this book goes to press the lost records of all the Women's Organizations were finally located in an old abandoned safe, which had not been used for years.

Without the knowledge of either Mr. or Mrs. Cassat, who would be reluctant to accept any credit for a job well done, we, the other members of the Session, take this means of expressing our sincere thanks to them for their untiring efforts in getting up this fine booklet.

THE SESSION

Autographs

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